

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A copper base alloy ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of at least one of 8 to 45 wt% of zinc and 0.2 to 12.0 wt% of tin, 20 to 1000 ppm of carbon, and the balance being copper and unavoidable impurities.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A copper base alloy ~~as set forth in claim 1, which further comprises~~ consisting essentially of:

at least one of 8 to 45 wt% of zinc and 0.2 to 12.0 wt% of tin;

20 to 1000 ppm of carbon;

one or more elements which are selected from the group consisting of ~~0.01 to 10.0 wt% of manganese,~~ 0.01 to 10.0 wt% of aluminum, 0.01 to 3.0 wt% of silicon, 0.01 to 15.0 wt% of nickel, 0.01 to 5.0 wt% of iron, 0.01 to 5.0 wt% of chromium, 0.01 to 2.5 wt% of cobalt, ~~0.01 to 3.0 wt% of titanium,~~ 0.001 to 4.0 wt% of bismuth, 0.05 to 4.0 wt% of lead, 0.01 to 2.0 wt% of magnesium, 0.01 to 0.5 wt% of phosphorus, ~~0.0005 to 0.5 wt% of boron,~~ 0.01 to 0.1 wt% of calcium, 0.01 to 0.1 wt% of yttrium, 0.01 to 0.1 wt% of strontium, 0.01 to 1.0 wt% of beryllium, 0.01 to 0.5 wt% of zirconium, 0.1 to 3.0 wt% of niobium, 0.1 to 3.0 wt% of vanadium, 0.1 to 3.0 wt% of hafnium, 0.1 to 3.0 wt% of molybdenum and 0.1 to 3.0 wt% of tantalum, the total amount of said elements being 50 wt% or less, and

the balance being copper and unavoidable impurities.

Claim 3 (original) A copper base alloy as set forth in claim 1, wherein a phase having a melting point of 800 °C or less, other than an alpha phase, has a volume percentage of 20 % or less.

Claim 4 (original) A copper base alloy as set forth in claim 1, wherein a difference in temperature between liquidus and solidus lines is 30 °C or more.

Claims 5-15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (new): A copper base alloy consisting essentially of 8 to 45 wt% of zinc, 0.2 to 12.0 wt% of tin, 20 to 1000 ppm of carbon, and the balance being copper and unavoidable impurities.

Claim 17 (new): A copper base alloy consisting essentially of 8 to 45 wt% of zinc, 20 to 1000 ppm of carbon, and the balance being copper and unavoidable impurities.

Claim 18 (new): A copper base alloy consisting essentially of 0.2 to 12.0 wt% of tin, 20 to 1000 ppm of carbon; and the balance being copper and unavoidable impurities.

Claim 19 (new): A copper base alloy consisting essentially of:
at least one of 8 to 45 wt% of zinc and 0.2 to 12.0 wt% of tin;

20 to 1000 ppm of carbon;

one or more elements which are selected from the group

consisting of 0.01 to 3.0 wt% of silicon, 0.01 to 15.0 wt% of nickel, 0.01 to 5.0 wt% of iron, 0.01 to 5.0 wt% of chromium, 0.01 to 2.0 wt% of magnesium and 0.01 to 0.5 wt% of phosphorus, the total amount of said elements being 50 wt% or less; and the balance being copper and unavoidable impurities.

Claim 20 (new): A copper base alloy consisting essentially of at least one of 8 to 45 wt% of zinc and 0.2 to 12.0 wt% of tin, 20 to 1000 ppm of carbon, 0.01 to 3.0 wt% of silicon, and the balance being copper and unavoidable impurities.